

**GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
AGRICULTURE
LOK SABHA**

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:909

ANSWERED ON:24.02.2003

IMPORT OF COTTON

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Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

- (a) whether Cotton is being imported every year in a large quantity due to low yields and inferior quality of the cotton grown in the country;
- (b) if so, the reaction of the Government thereto alongwith the details of the cotton imported during the last two years, country-wise;
- (c) whether the Government have made efforts for cutting the costs of cotton by increasing its yield and for enhancing the quality to bring to the international standards;
- (d) if so, the details thereof;
- (e) whether the Government propose to take steps to increase the import duty on cotton to the permissible level in accordance with the WTO conditions;
- (f) if so, the details thereof; and
- (g) if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV)

(a): Cotton is imported as well as exported as per the market situation.

(b): The details of Raw and waste cotton imported during last two years country-wise is as below:

(Tonnes)

S.No.	Country	2000-01	2001-02
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1.	Egypt	29382	141647
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2.	Australia	28775	42801
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3.	USA	24286	25745
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4.	Sudan	14080	11607
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5.	Germany	8827	25745
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6.	U.K.	5872.62	14404
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7	South Africa	11477	16507
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8.	Isreal	10976	13121
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9.	Seychelles	8752	9113
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10.	Japan	7733	9719
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(c)&(d): Yes, Sir. Govt. of India is implementing Technology Mission on cotton in 13 Cottongrowing states. Technology Mission

comprises of Four Mini missions, of which Mini Mission I is implemented by Indian council of Agricultural Research, Ministry of Agriculture which is responsible for research and Technology generation to enhance yield & quality of cotton. Mini Mission II is being implemented by Deptt. of Agriculture & Cooperation, Ministry of Agriculture through state governments to increase the production of Cotton in the country. Under MM-II, subsidy is given on Distribution of certified seed, field demonstration, watersaving devices (sprinkler & drip irrigation), distribution of pheromone traps, sprayers, bio agents and establishment / augmentation of bio agents laboratories to minimise the pesticides consumption.

(e)to(g): Import duty is fixed by the Ministry of Finance on different commodities as per the situation within the permissible limit under WTO agreement.